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Implementation of Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers in Bihar

5980. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which the Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers has been implemented in Biha;

(b) the number of persons benefited by this insurance policy in Bihar since the implementation of the scheme, year-wise;

(c) whether the desired results have not been obtained by this scheme in Central Bihar; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make it more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a). The Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers has been implemented in Bihar with effect from 11.11.1987.

(b) The nmber of beneficiaries under the Scheme in Bihar has been estimated to be 18 lakhs. The year wise number of claims settled by the Life Insurance Corporation of India is given below:-

Year	*No. of claims settled*
From 11.11.1987 to 31.3.1988	Nil
1988-89	70
1989-90	78
1990-91	197

(c) and (d) Due to lack of awareness among the masses about the benefts available under the Scheme the expected nmber of claims have not been reported to the L.I.C. The Scheme is being administered through L.I.C. with the collaboration of the State/ Union Territories Governments. The success of the Scheme depends pon the prompt identification of the eligible beneficiaries. For this prpose the State Government officials at the village, Taluka and Districts levels have to take sufficient interest. The LIC on its own has introduced a number of steps to make it more effective, concentrating on massive publicity campaign involving newspaper advertisements, radio, T.V. ads, distribtion of leaflets, posters, wall paintings etc. State Government have also been reqested to activate the local machnery for this prpose.

[English] 244

Enqiry into purchase of Properties by Exectives of Punjab and Sind Bank

5981. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Qestion No. 312 on December 29,1989 and state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. enquiry instituted against the Depty General Manager of the Punjab and Sind Bank has been completed; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and th action taken by the Government on the basis of their report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Punjab and Sind Bank has reported that after an enquiry, the Central Breau of Investigation (CBI) has recommended instituting major penalty proceedings against the Deputy General Manager. After the receipt of the report of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the bank has examined the matter and as per procedre

sought the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission.

[*Translation*] 245 National Highway

Repair of Delhi-Calcutta Grand Trunk Road

5982. SHRI BHBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of SRFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dhanbad-Sasaram portion of the Grand Trunk Road from Delhi to Calcutta is not traffic-worthy and due to the damage caused to the bridge at Varkaha in Hazaribagh district, traffic has been paralised for more tham one month;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to undertake immediate repairs of the road and the bridge; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). No, Sir. However, due to damage to the diversion of the bridge under construction over Atka Nalla in Km. 326 of NH 2 on 19.7.1991, the traffic on National Highway had to be diverted through State Road.

(b) The traffic over Atka Nalla bridge has now been restored on 25.8.91. Strengthening works for distressed stretch of the road are also being taken up.

(c) No seperate funds have been allocated for these works. The expenditure would be met from the overall allocations for National Highways in the State.

[*English*] 245

Repairing of National Highway No.5 Passing through Andhra Pradesh

5983. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for repairing the National Highways No.5 passing through Andhra Pradesh which is in a very bad condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OFSURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The extent of damages to the stretches of National Highway No. 5 in Andhra Pradesh affected by heavy rains and cyclones is being assessed and thereafter the proposals for repairs can be considered subject to the availability of funds.

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Meeting the Requirements of Handloom and Powerloom Industries

5984. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing cooperative cotton spinning mills in Maharashtra are able to meet the requirements of handloom and powerloom industries;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to meet the requirement of these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a). The requirement of yarn of handloom and powerloom sectors is met not by the cooperative spinning mills alone, but by spinning mills in private as well pblic sector, as also the composite mills to the extent of availability of surplus available after captive consumption.